



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/781,609	02/18/2004	Farni Weaver	2284	2700
28005	7590	02/19/2010	EXAMINER	
SPRINT			PEACHES, RANDY	
6391 SPRINT PARKWAY				
KSOPHT0101-Z2100			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251-2100			2617	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			02/19/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/781,609	Applicant(s) WEAVER, FARNI	
	Examiner RANDY PEACHES	Art Unit 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 November 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14, 16-18, 20 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 18 and 32-33 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14, 16, 17, 20 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. ***Claims 14, 16, 17, 20 and 21 are*** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hicks et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,016,424).

Regarding ***claim 14***, Hicks et al. discloses a message delivery method providing a mobile station user notification of the delay of teleservices, comprising:

- determining whether a delay timer parameter (Delay-TMR)(40), which reads on claim “expected delay,” for delivery of an electronic message is less than a R-delay period (95), which reads on claim, “threshold delay,” wherein the said (Delay-TMR)(40) is the expected delay for delivery of an electronic message by a Base station/mobile station interworking function (BMI, column 2 lines 20-30), which reads on claim “message gateway.” See column 2 lines 42-67;
- creating the electronic message only after determining that the said (Delay-TMR)(40), is less than the said R-delay period (95). See column 3 lines 60-67 and column 4 lines 1-5, whereby Hicks teaches that if a new teleservice transaction is to be sent a new message is created and replaces the messages in the queue; and

Art Unit: 2617

- sending the electronic message to the said BMI only after determining that the said (Delay-TMR)(40) is less than the said R-delay period (95). See column 3 lines 1-8 and column 4 lines 2-5.

Regarding **claim 16**, according to **claim 14**, Hicks et al. continues to disclose wherein determining whether the (Delay-TMR)(40) is less than a threshold delay includes sending a R-Data message (25), which reads on claim “delay query.” See column 2 lines 45-59.

Regarding **claim 17**, according to **claim 14**, Hicks et al. continues to disclose wherein determining whether the (Delay-TMR)(40) is less than a R-delay period (95) includes receiving a R-Data Information element (35), which reads on claim “received delay report.” See column 2 lines 49-59.

Regarding **claim 20**, according to **claim 14**, Hicks et al. continues to disclose wherein determining whether the (Delay-TMR)(40) exceeds a R-delay period (95) includes:

- receiving a R-Data Information element (35), that indicates the length of the said (Delay-TMR)(40). See column 2 lines 49-59; and
- comparing the (Delay-TMR)(40) to the R-delay period (95). See column 3 lines 34-51.

Art Unit: 2617

Regarding **claim 21**, according to **claim 14**, Hicks et al. continues to disclose wherein the electronic message is a short message service message. See column 2 lines 26-34.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 18 and 32-33 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 11/24/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding Applicant's argument whereby the cited prior art fails to render sufficient support in "creating the electronic message only after determining that the expected delay is less than the threshold delay". The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The Applicant's claim asks for the creation of an electronic message "after" the expected delay is less than a threshold delay. The Examiner, respectfully, has interpreted this to literally mean the creation of a message "after" a type of determination is made (in this case a threshold). Therefore, the prior art of Hicks, clearly teach, as the Applicant has pointed out, of a creation of a second message if the first message in the queue is deemed to be replaced. See excerpt below:

Art Unit: 2617

↖ In the option illustrated generally at 124, only one transaction is queued within the memory element 48 of the mobile station 10 at any particular time. Thus, the user is notified at step 125 that a queued message is already present and asked if the user would like to transmit the new teleservice transaction instead of the previously queued one upon completion of the delay. Inquiry step 130 determines the user's response, and if the old teleservice transaction is

↖ to be sent, continues processing as previously discussed in FIG. 3 at step 140. Otherwise, at step 135, the new teleservice transaction replaces the queued teleservice transaction within the memory element 48, and this message is transmitted upon expiration of the DELAY_TMR parameter 40.

Hicks discloses that, a new teleservice replaces the queued teleservice transaction within the memory. This new teleservice, which is interpreted by the Examiner as an electronic message, is the creation of a message after determining that the expected delay is less than a threshold delay. In addition, Hicks teaches in column 2 that this teleservice can be any type transaction, which includes electronic message service.

Therefore, **claims 14, 16-17 and 20-21** stands rejected.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

Art Unit: 2617

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RANDY PEACHES whose telephone number is (571) 272-7914. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on (571) 272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Randy Peaches/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Charles N. Appiah/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

Application/Control Number: 10/781,609
Art Unit: 2617

Page 7